

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1. (Currently amended) A monoclonal antibody reacting with a surface antigen present on fetal red blood cells including and their nucleated precursor cells, but not with CD71 or other surface antigens on adult erythroid cells.
2. (Currently amended) The antibody according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that it reacts~~having reactivity with ~~most or all~~-fetal erythroid cells, which express the CD71 antigen but are negative for CD45 antigen expression.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently amended) A hybridoma cell producing a monoclonal antibody reacting with a surface antigen present on fetal red blood cells including and their nucleated precursor cells, but not with surface antigens on adult erythroid cells.
- 5-12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently amended) A method for detection or identification of fetal cells in a sample, ~~characterized by~~comprising labeling said fetal cells ~~[[by]]~~with an antibody according to claim 1.
14. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the sample is maternal blood or a sample of maternal blood.
15. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, where said fetal cells are, subsequent to the detection and identification, further analyzed for a chromosomal ~~and/or~~ genetic ~~aberration, defects and/or variant~~.
16. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, further comprising separating fetal cells binding the monoclonal antibody by flow cytometry, solid phase separation, immunomagnetic bead separation, or panning on plastic surfaces, ~~or the like~~.